DECLASSIFIED

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification
VERBATIM TEXT

R 56

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY QS DATE 14 MAY 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
ts AUTH. E.O. 11652 EXEMPTION(S)
DECLASSIFY ☐ DOWNGRADE ☐
A or FOI EXEMPTIONS

THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE RM/R CENTRAL FILES

For DCIT use only.

SENT TO: Amembassy ACCRA

567

Origin

Info:

Re Embtels 564 and 606, and Embassy despatch 557

If there no objection following inter-agency cleared letter signed by Ambassador Flake should be delivered soonest to Prime Minister Nkrumah:

"Dear Prime Minister:

Since my acknowledgement of your letter of March 14, my Government has given careful consideration to your letter, the recently released Reassessment Report on the Volta River Project, the formal record of your meeting with Mr. Edgar Kaiser on March 14, and has discussed personally with Mr. Edgar Kaiser and Mr. Chad Calhoun the conversations they have had with you and officials of your Government.

Dist. Desired (Offices Only)

Knowing the importance you and your Government have attached to the Volta River Project, my Government was pleased to learn of the favorable nature of the Reassessment Report and noted with interest the decision of your Government, in furthering your determination to see that power is generated from the Volta River as quickly as possible, to finance a contract which will initiate immediately certain preliminary work at the dam site.

RM/R
Appl
Rev
Init

Drafted by: AF:AFS:ELadberg,Jr:pdh 4/30/59

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - J. C. Satterthwaite

Clearances:
AF-Mr. Penfield
AF-Mr. Dolgin
ED - Mr. Hefner
ICA - Mr. MacPhail
ICA - Mr. Fletcher
ICA - Mr. Levine
Commerce - Mr. Gordon
AFS - Mr. Ferguson
ED - Mr. Kenney
Commerce-Mr. Wilson
DLF - Mr. Hannum

UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED" REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED.

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

S/S-CR

APR 30 1959 A.M.

DECLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIED FILE

845J.2614/4-2959

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

With reference to your request that the United States assist Ghana in seeking to interest industries which would be large consumers of power generated from the Volta River, my Government wishes to reaffirm, as President Eisenhower stated in his letter of January 3, 1958, to you, its desire to be helpful in the economic development of Ghana. In this connection and more specifically with regard to the efforts of my Government to interest United States aluminum companies in Volta power, United States officials during the past year have been in touch with officials of the aluminum industry in the hope that they might find it practical to establish or to participate in the establishment of an aluminum industry in Ghana. In this connection, discussions initiated some months ago among members of the aluminum industry themselves are continuing in an effort to determine the possibility of forming a combination of companies to undertake a project of a size which would provide a sufficient market for the generation of power envisaged.

Concerning the efforts of the United States Government to interest other United States industries which are large consumers of power in establishing plants in Ghana which would provide a market for Volta power, United States officials will, as they have during the past year, continue to discuss the Volta Project with officials of such United States industries.

As an example of the effort of my Government to be of assistance in this regard, I believe you will be pleased to learn that, following the release by your Government of the Reassessment Report, the United States has undertaken to publicize the Reassessment Report and the potentialities of the Volta Project

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

for United States investors. Indicative of this effort is the article which appeared in the April twentieth issue of Foreign Commerce Weekly, an official publication of the United States Department of Commerce. A copy of this issue is enclosed for your information. In addition, the Department of Commerce has begun bringing the Reassessment Report to the special attention of selected companies in the United States concerned with electric power production as well as a large number of secondary industries. The Report is now receiving careful and analytical consideration by several such companies, but it will, of course, take some time before any concrete results can be expected.

With reference to your request that the United States assist Ghana in working out a plan for the financing of the construction of the dam and power installation, my Government wishes to reiterate its sincere desire to help Ghana in such ways as are within the limitations of its resources and other heavy commitments throughout the world. In the President's letter he indicated that the active participation of the aluminum industry and its ability to undertake the mining and manufacturing part of the project are essential to the success of the total project, particularly in view of its great magnitude. He also said that when you have firm indications of intention from the aluminum industry to participate and necessary assurances of financial support from either private or public sources for a major part of the required financing the United States Government will be pleased to explore with you what possible assistance it might be able to provide toward financing a portion of the

DECLASSIFIED
Classification

hydroelectric project. My Government's position in this regard remains unchanged. It, therefore, will be pleased to learn of the results of the talks being held at your request within the aluminum industry.

Sincerely yours,"

(to be signed by Ambassador Flake)

Enclosure to letter being forwarded airmail. Changes text should be referred Department.

FYI. Department realizes letter not completely responsive Nkrumah's second request however should this be raised in conversation you may explain that while we want be helpful as possible it inappropriate the USG assume primary role arranging financing for Volta Project. In any event, believe GOG must first receive favorable reply from aluminum industry as major user of power before any plan can be worked out for financing construction of dam and power installation. Without this we doubt whether financing could be arranged this time. END FYI.

Dillon

Acting DILLON

(GCS)

DECLASSIFIED